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REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 16 have been canceled. Claims 13-15 and 17-18 remain pending in the application.

Applicants, again, acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claim 15.

Claims 13, 14, 17, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,768,306 to Sawahashi et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Examiner conceded that AAPA do not disclose the claimed storage and control unit features, and relied upon Sawahashi et al. as a combining reference that allegedly suggests these features.

According to Sawahashi et al., however, the period during which the received signal is kept stored in the memory 43 is limited to the period during which the correlation is obtained by multiplying the received signal with the phase of the replica of the spreading code sequence by shifting by one chip.

For example, Sawahashi et al. describe as follows on col. 5, lines 65 to col. 6, line 1:

"Furthermore, the frequency of the write timing signal and that of the read timing signal produced by the timing generator 42 are set at $1/TC$ and K/TC , respectively, where TC is one chip period." (Emphasis added)

In other words, Sawahashi et al. describe the received signal being overwritten for each chip cycle (TC), and the received signal is, thus, stored for a period corresponding to one chip cycle (TC). Also, Sawahashi et al. describe reading out being performed K times on the basis of K/TC until the overwriting of the next received signal is performed, thereby the correlation is performed.

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This means that Sawahashi et al. describe the received signal being kept stored in the memory 43 during the period in which the correlation is obtained by multiplying the received signal with replica of the spread code sequence by shifting by one chip, and the overwriting after that is to be performed by the next received signal.

Thus, even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to apply the technique described in Sawahashi et al. to AAPA, such a combination would have, at most, suggested the received signal being kept stored during a first correlation in which the correlation is obtained while shifting the relative timing between the received signal and the common spread code. The storage period would have been limited, however, to the period during which the correlation is obtained while shifting (when this period is over, the overwriting is permitted). Accordingly, the stored signal would not have been maintained in the memory 43 until the determination of a second correlation to be performed after the first correlation.

In other words, even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to combine AAPA and Sawahashi et al. at the time the claimed invention was made, such a combination would still have failed to disclose or suggest,

“[a] mobile station corresponding to DS-CDMA performing a first correlation determination between a received signal and a common spreading code with regard to a plurality of base stations by shifting a relative timing between the received signal and the common spreading code, and performing a second correlation determination between the received signal and a plurality of kinds of spreading codes that are respectively different from the common spreading code based on a timing obtained by the first correlation determination, said mobile station comprising:

a storage unit storing the received signal over a time long enough to perform both the first correlation determination and the second correlation determination; and

a control unit using same received signal having been stored in the storage unit for performing the first and second correlation determinations,” as recited in independent claim 13. (Emphasis added)

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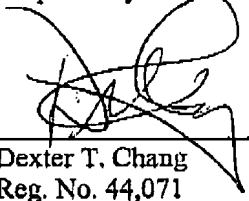
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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13 is patentable over AAPA and Sawahashi et al., separately and in combination, for at least the foregoing reasons. Claims 14 and 17-18 incorporate features that correspond to those of claim 13 cited above, and are, therefore, patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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